Claims

1. Electrical apparatus for the processing of digital data and said apparatus is rendered operable by the insertion of a processor into the same for connection to the processing capability to render the capability operational and detection means are provided in connection with the mains power supply to the receiver, prior to rectification of the supply and characterised in that upon detection of failure or absence of AC pulses in the power supply, the processor capability, or parts of the processor capability of the apparatus are shut down in a controlled manner by the electrical apparatus.

2 Apparatus according to claim 1 characterised in that the apparatus is a broadcast data receiver and the processor is provided as part of a smart card.

3. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 2 characterised in that the shut-down procedures are performed prior to the mains power supply failure affecting the processor capability of the broadcast data receiver.

4 A broadcast data receiver according to claim 2 characterised in that the shut-down procedure includes shutting down the processing capability of the processor mounted on the smart card which is inserted into the receiver and hence prevents damage to said processor.

5 A broadcast data receiver according to claim 4 characterised in that in addition or alternatively to the shut down of the processor mounted on the card, other shut-down procedures can be implemented.

6 A broadcast data receiver according to claim 5 characterised in that the shut down procedure includes storing data relating to a channel which is being viewed at the instant of power failure.

7 A broadcast data receiver according to claim 2, characterised in that data relating to user selections is stored in a storage means as part of the shut down procedure.

8 A broadcast data receiver, said receiver provided for the reception and processing of digital data for the generation of video, audio and auxiliary functions, said receiver is rendered operable by the insertion of a processor integrated circuit into the same for connection to the processing capability within the receiver and wherein detection means are provided in connection with the mains electricity supply to the receiver, prior to rectification and wherein upon detection of failure of AC pulses in the power supply, the processor capability, or parts of the processor capability of the broadcast data receiver are shut down.